AROUND THE NCAA

In September, the NCAA announced that UCLA committed a major infraction when an associate head football coach violated ethical conduct rules. The coach arranged for and provided two prospective football student-athletes with housing expenses and training services (valued at $2,400) for approximately three weeks at a private training facility in Arizona. The coach assumed the benefits were permissible since the prospects had signed National Letters of Intent. The associate head coach also had impermissible off-campus contact with three prospects during an evaluation period. In addition to other corrective actions, the associate head coach was assessed the following penalties: three month suspension from all institutional activity; suspension from all recruiting activities during the spring evaluation period; suspension from all coaching activities during the spring practice period; two game suspension at the start of the 2015 football season; $54,166 fine (the equivalent of one month’s salary); and he was required to return a $10,000 bonus.

It is important to note that once a student-athlete has committed to the institution, they are no longer subject to the restrictions of Bylaw 13.1 (contacts and evaluations). The individuals remains a prospect for purposes of applying the remaining provisions of Bylaw 13 and other bylaws (i.e., extra benefits).

AWAY-FROM-HOME COMPETITION MEALS

Coaches may choose between two options when providing meals to student-athletes in conjunction with away games. The rules for the selected option must be followed during the entire trip.

Option 1: All Meals
- Student-athletes may receive unlimited meals from the time the team is required to report on call for travel until the team returns to campus.
- Student-athletes may not receive cash in lieu of a meal.
- Student-athletes may receive a meal or cash (not to exceed $15), but not both, at the time they are released at the end of the trip.

Option 2: Per Diem
- Student-athletes may receive three meals or the cash allowance for the meal.
- On the day of the game, student-athletes may receive either a pregame or postgame meal.
- Student-athletes may receive $15 in lieu of a postgame meal.

BENEFITS TO HIGH SCHOOL COACHES

MSU may not provide anything of value (e.g., access to the NEZ, entertainment, parking, meals, transportation reimbursement) to high school, preparatory school, or two-year college coaches or any other individual responsible for teaching or directing prospects (e.g., club coach, high school athletics director). MSU may provide two complimentary tickets to home games only. All ticket requests must be submitted on ACS.

RECRUITING CALENDAR

BASEBALL
Contact/Eval. Period: Oct. 1-31

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Recruiting Period: Oct. 1-31

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Evaluation Period: Oct. 1-31

CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK & FIELD
Contact/Eval. Period: Oct. 1-31

FOOTBALL
Evaluation Period: Oct. 1-31
42 evaluation days Sept.—Nov.

SOFTBALL
Contact/Eval. Period: Oct. 1-31

VOLLEYBALL
Contact/Eval. Period: Oct. 1-31

NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT REMINDERS

The National Letter of Intent (NLI) initial signing date for all sports other than football and soccer is Wednesday, November 9, 2016.
- The NLI early signing period is November 9-16, 2016.
- The dead period surrounding the initial signing date is November 7-10, 2016.
- A prospect must register with the Eligibility Center AND completes the amateurism certification questionnaire.
- Coaches must submit a PSA Tender Request Form for all NLI signees. The form is available on ACS. The deadline to submit the form is Friday, October 28.

RANDOM TRIVIA

Coca-Cola was the first soft drink to be consumed in outer space.